

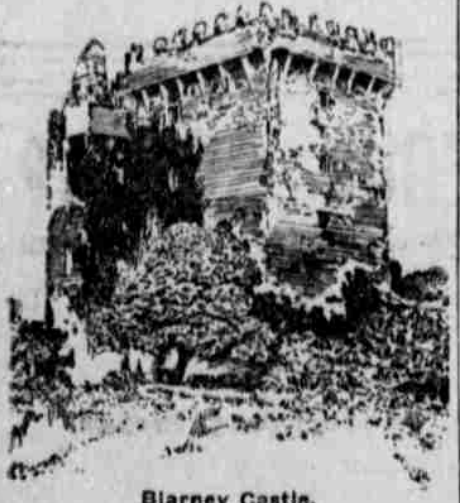
FAMOUS OLD BLARNEY

Historic Spot, Long Famed in Song and Story, is One of the Glories of Ireland.

IN THE year 1446 an Irish bishop—his face scarred with many wounds—climbed to the keep of his castle, and, hanging over the side, kissed a stone in the wall about five feet from the top. This was Cormack MacCarthy, and the castle was Blarney castle, his military stronghold. For in those days a bishop had to be a good fighter besides being a good churchman. The stone that MacCarthy kissed is now called the "Blarney Stone."

Cormack MacCarthy built Castle Blarney in County Cork. One day, a little while after he had finished it, he was walking along when he happened to see an old woman drowning in a stream. Being both a courteous and a brave man, he immediately plunged in, and after many struggles rescued her. The old woman blessed her rescuer and promised that, for a reward, she would bestow upon him a tongue of such eloquence that he could influence friends and enemies.

But there was only one way to obtain this gift. He must climb to the top of his castle and kiss a stone in the wall there. MacCarthy followed



Blarney Castle.

directions and immediately obtained such eloquence that he delayed for a long time by persuasion and promise the surrender of the castle to the lord president. It is said that even to this day whoever climbs to the top of the castle and kisses the stone will receive the gift of golden speech.

Many people now go to kiss the Blarney stone. One time a young American visited Castle Blarney, and was very enthusiastic about kissing the stone. He leaned over the square opening; but just then he got a look at the ground, 120 feet below. He suddenly decided that this business of kissing the Blarney stone was only a silly superstition, and was not worth the trouble anyway.

One of the legends that cling about the ruins of Blarney is that in the pastures near the castle ghostly cattle fight at night with the present possessors of the fields. It is also reported that in the summer fairs dance on the grass all night.

Castle Blarney's fame has been increased by Richard Millekin's song, "The Groves of Blarney," written in 1798. Francis S. Mahoney, known as Father Prout, added the following lines, which have carried the legend of the Blarney stone around the world:

There is a stone there,
That whoever kisses,
Oh! he never misses
To grow eloquent.
'Tis he may clamber
To a lady's chamber
Or become a member
Of sweet Parliament.

A clever spouter
He'll sure turn out, or
An out and outer;
To be let alone!
Don't hope to hinder him,
Or to bewilder him,
Sure he's a pilgrim
From the Blarney Stone.

LOOKING OVER THE FIORD



The intense beauty of the fiords of western Ireland have only to be seen to be ever remembered. The silver blue of the water and the purple of the promontories and islets combine to make pictures of natural beauty which cannot be excelled. Were these beauties less veiled in rain and mist, western Ireland would be another land as regards financial prosperity.

To see three magpies on the left hand when on a journey is unlucky; but two on the right hand is a good omen.

SHAMROCKS

You buy a pot o' shamrocks—you like them for their green
An' for their pleasant friendliness—but know not what they mean!
What can you know of shamrocks, you who feel not the thrill
They bring of Shannon's murmurs past flowered field and hill?
You buy a pot of shamrocks, and back at them you smile—
Ah, could you know and feel that they are part of Erin's isle!

You hav' not eyes that see things, or you would see the mist
That runs across Killarney when morning's brow is kissed;
You have not ears that hear things, or you would hear the song
Made of a thousand memories forever sweet an' strong—
'Tis but a pot o' shamrocks, a whimsy thing you buy,
An' not a bit of Irish sod or breadth of Irish sky!

The glint of Irish sunshine makes all that livin' green,
An' Irish rains kept off the stains an' gave that jewel-sheen;
Would that you understood it! For could you understand,
There'd be a bit of tremblin' each time they touched your hand!
Your fingers would be tremblin', your eyes be dewy-wet,
Your heart would beat a measure you never could forget.

You buy a pot o' shamrocks, an' know not what they mean!
You set them on the table to see their cheerin' green—
But should you trample on them they'd rise in grace again,
Just as the hopes rise in the hearts of women and of men.
Smile friendly at your shamrocks, an' back at you they smile—
Ah, could you know an' feel that they are part of Erin's isle!

WILBUR D. NESBIT.

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AMERICA'S DEBT TO IRELAND

Immigrants Have Wrought Well in the Wonderful Development of Their Adopted Land.

Out of Europe, for more than two centuries there have been flowing streams of humanity, always hastening, like the affluents of some mighty river, toward the west. And for more than one century at least those who earliest found their place in this once-welcoming continent have been starting with open or covert contempt at those who have followed them.

Until now, when our national intelligence has broadened beyond the purblind, narrow vision that could see in an immigrant only his ignorance, his poverty and the uncouthness which, in the land he has deserted, may be the best, approved mode of living for people of his class.

We are looking at the essentials now—at the brain and the brawn, the health and the courage; at the race, the national history, the adaptiveness—of all this raw material for citizenry. These latest comers are reaping the fruits of the lessons we have learned while seeing their forerunners emerge from the poverty and want that made them reproaches in our eyes and, by their own inherent strength, rise to the full level of American skill, energy and—what has always been their conspicuous trait—patriotism.

No single stream that trickled first and then came in flood had to fight its way more hardily here than the immigrants who hailed from Ireland; and if one were to cast everywhere to find immigrants and their descendants who have most potently wrought for the development of the nation, he would see none more numerous, more strong and—final verdict of the land of their adoption—more respected than those very Irish.

The United States, for them, owes England a debt which neither nation may ever acknowledge; but the time is not far away when England seems fated to realize the enormity of her loss and the vastness of America's gain.

St. Patrick's Character.

Like all men who have had a dominating influence in the sphere of religious thought, St. Patrick had intense zeal and enthusiasm.

In his confessions St. Patrick lays no claim to superior learning and appears throughout as a warm-hearted, devoted, modest man.

"MY HEART'S RIGHT THERE"



We have here a glimpse of an Irish peasant woman with her child. The woman wears the characteristic shawl of the country.

Among the New Spring Gowns



BECOMING lines are exemplified in this new spring gown of taffeta, which is simple enough for the home dressmaker to undertake and pretty enough for the most fastidious of women to enjoy. Taffeta lends itself to the new, wide skirts, the horizontal tucks and other quaint features in the new gowns, borrowed from a period more than a half century behind us. The days of the crinoline are recalled by the utterly feminine and fascinating demureness of this modest gown.

The wide tucks running around the skirt with a fullness of three to four yards in the width, combine to make the flare that is to be achieved in this particular style. The fullness is disposed of at the top partly by cutting and partly by shirring or plaits into which the material is laid. Many of the new spring skirts, cut with the requirements of the plump figure in mind, fit smoothly about the hips and are widened gradually toward the bottom, where they ripple at the hem.

Another feature of spring styles is the revival of the suspender dress.

And very appropriately accompanying this comes the prominence given to pockets on skirts for street wear. In these fine tailoring plays a most important part. They are all cut ankle length, and the attention given to snappy footwear is not less than that bestowed upon the skirt. Separate skirts are worn with tailored waists of crepe-de-chine.

In either tailored or afternoon gowns there are short jackets and long coats to choose from. The short waist line hardly admits a rival in popularity, and perhaps this accounts for the lack in number of designs which were expected to feature military ideas.

The short jacket that completes the pretty gown pictured here is covered with braiding in self-color. It is just the touch required to enrich the design. Worn over a lacy bodice and with a flower-trimmed hat the toilette leaves nothing to be desired. It is developed in a medium shade of blue with a grayish cast and the hat and parasol correspond.

Millinery in Diverse Styles



HERE are three hats which stand for three very distinct types in the new millinery for spring. But they have several features in common which mark the incoming styles. They are elaborately made and they are considerably trimmed. There is a reaction away from the severely plain hats with a single and sometimes minute decoration, such as a small bow or a single flower.

At the left of the group is a quaint and picturesque bonnet made of black horsehair braid. Narrow black velvet ribbon and clusters of garden roses and forget-me-nots are used for the trimming. You cannot imagine anything which completes the costume more harmoniously, when it is one of those wide-skirted, colonial looking affairs that are so prettily developed in taffeta.

At the right is a pretty street turban made of braid in satin straw, and having a soft silk crown. An embroidered band about the coronet is bordered with very narrow velvet ribbon and short streamers fall from a diminutive flat bow at the back. At the front a big silk pompon supports a long slender feather which fronts the weather with amazing audacity.

One of those models which is expected to do duty both for street and other wear is shown at the center of the group. It is made of crepe draped over a light frame. The brim is cleverly managed so that an outline of four points results. Midway between these a little bouquet of roses and small flowers is set in a cluster of leaves. This is one of those rare hats that are suited to older as well as younger matrons.

The use of bright flowers is very welcome after a surfeit of black during the past winter. Even when flowers or fruit do not appear on the spring models, color is supplied in ornaments and needlework. The movement is away from somberness and everyone should encourage the use of lovely color.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

Materials for Coats.

The heavy coatings that bid fair to hold a prominent place this spring are, of course, higher in price, but then they are not so expensive after all, for they are very wide, and only a small number of yards is necessary to complete a garment. The rich oriental colors still hold their own in these materials, and for outing wear they are lovely. Even the conservative dresser does not hesitate to don one of these lovely colorful top coats when spending a time at a southern resort or in the country. Dress stuffs are only a trifle less colorful, and at first one might get the impression that white had been excluded in the dress goods plan. This is by no means so, and almost any weave that is found in color is also to be had in plain white. There is this to be said, however, that almost every white gown, unless one is in mourning, has a liberal touch of color introduced in the way of trimming.

With Quaintness of Bygone Days. A harbinger of the mode is this frock of rose taffeta, which exemplifies the double skirt—or the appearance of it—the peplum bodice and the popular absence of trimming—Vogue.



ROADS IN BETTER CONDITION

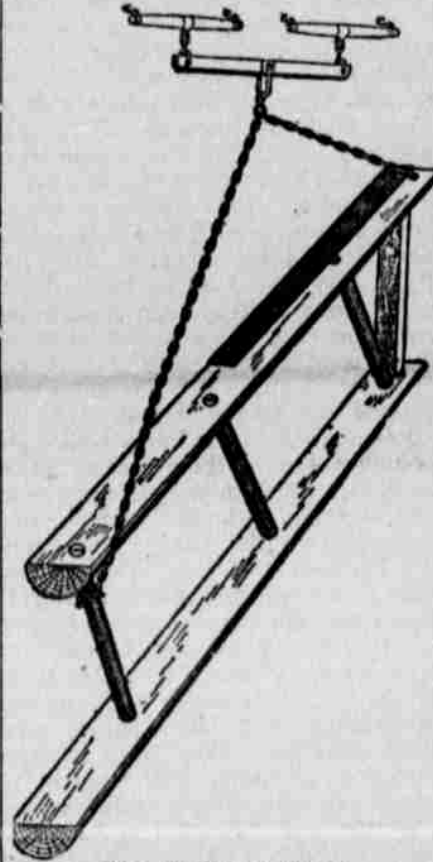
Split-Log Drag of Great Service in Keeping Thoroughfares in Shape—How It Is Built.

The use of the split-log drag is important in putting the roads in shape. There are over 2,000,000 miles of earth roads in the country, and the split-log drag is of great service in keeping them in economical repair. The drag is used in many states and in foreign countries. It is used with two, three, or four horses, and is easily constructed.

It is a mistake to construct a heavy drag. A dry red cedar log is the best material for a drag. Red elm and walnut when thoroughly dried are excellent, and box elder, soft maple, or even willow are preferable to oak, hickory or ash.

The log should be seven or eight feet long, and from ten to twelve inches in diameter, and carefully split down the middle. The heaviest and best slabs should be selected for the front. At a point on the front slab four inches from the end that is to be at the middle of the road locate the center of the hole to receive a cross stake, and 22 inches from the other end of the front slab locate the center or another cross stake. The hole or the middle stake will lie on a line connecting and halfway between the other two.

The back slab should then be placed in a position behind the other. From the end at the middle of the road measure 20 inches for the center of the cross stake, and six inches from the other end locate the center of the



The Split-Log Drag.

outside stake. Find the center of the middle hole as before. When these holes are brought opposite each other, one end of the back slab will lie 16 inches nearer the center of the roadway than the front one. The holes should be two inches in diameter. Care must be taken to hold the auger plumb in boring these holes in order that the stakes shall fit properly.

The two slabs should be held 30 inches apart by the stakes. The stakes should taper gradually toward the ends. There should be no shoulder at the point where the stakes enter the slab. The stakes should be fastened in place by wedges only. When the stakes have been placed in position and tightly wedged a brace two inches thick and four inches wide should be placed diagonally to them at the ditch end. The brace should be dropped on the front slab, so that its over edge shall lie within an inch of the ground, while the other end should rest in the angle, between the slab and the end stake. A strip of iron about three and one-half feet long, three or four inches wide, and one-half of an inch thick may be used for the brace.

An ordinary trace chain is strong enough to draw the implement, provided the clevis is not fastened through a link. The chain should be wrapped around the rear stake, then passed over the front stake. Raising the chain at this end of the slab allows the earth to drift past the face of the drag. The other end of the chain should be passed through the hole in the end of the slab.

Make-Up of Dairy Cow.

A wide, deep and full barrel or side is very important in a dairy cow. She must have plenty of room in which to manufacture milk from food and a large barrel indicates large digestive organs. A wide mouth and long, strong jaws also indicate that Bossy is, like Bill Nye, "fond of food." She ought also to have a large belly and moderately high flank.

Beautify Home Grounds.

Set out fruit trees where they will add to the beauty of the grounds.

Temperance

(Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.)

WILL GET THEIR EYES OPENED.

"When liquor is put out of America I believe it will be by the men who drink," says Hon. Seaborn Wright of Georgia. "If they could realize how they are being deceived there would be ten thousand Boston tea parties today."

"Do you know," he continued, "that it costs less than twenty cents to make one gallon of whisky? Then why is it that the man who drinks pays two or three dollars for an article which costs less than twenty cents to produce? I wonder how many men who drink stop to ask, 'Why do I pay twelve hundred per cent above the cost to produce it, twelve hundred per cent more than my father paid before the Civil War?' The answer is simple. The federal government has placed a revenue of one dollar and ten cents on each gallon of liquor. If it ended there then a revenue of two billion dollars would be paid. But the manufacturer turns to his clerk and says, 'Add the cost of production to the price.' Never on earth has the liquor trust paid one dollar to the federal government and it never will."

NORTH CAROLINA CONDITIONS.

Speaking of the conditions in North Carolina, Mr. M. L. Shipman, state commissioner of labor, says:

"Whisky distilleries have been displaced with industrial plants and over the remains of the saloons have been erected splendid school buildings and magnificent church edifices. In Gaston county alone 26 distilleries were in operation under former conditions. It now boasts of 47 textile plants, employing more than 7,000 people, and makes the further claim of having one of the finest systems of public schools in the state. This condition prevails generally throughout the commonwealth. Instead of spending their weekly earnings in saloons, and frequently in police stations, the wage-earners of North Carolina are now providing an abundance of wholesome food and adequate clothing for their families."

EFFECT OF A GLASS OF BEER.

It has been scientifically demonstrated by experiments made in the Swedish army that even a small quantity of alcohol decreases the marksmanship of the man behind the gun. Under Lieutenant Bengt Boy a squad of soldiers were put through a test after having gone without beer for a certain period of time. Out of a total of 30 targets their average was 23 shots.

Later these same soldiers were allowed a glass of beer apiece one evening and another glass the following morning, and the average number of hits that afternoon was three. To check up this result which seemed out of reason, another test without beer was made some days later, when these same soldiers averaged 26 hits.

BREWERIES REPLACED.

From Spokane, Wash., comes word that the Dollar Brewery building, located on the fort grounds, is being torn down to make way for a paper mill. The North Yakima brewery is to be connected with a fruit preserving and fruit canning factory, and will also make grape juice, vinegar and other fruit extracts. The manager of this brewery is not only reconciled to but is enthusiastic over the change. Thousands of tons of fruit go to waste every year in Washington and Oregon, and he says, a great industry can be built up in the packing and canning business which will bring great prosperity to these states.

SENTIMENT AGAINST LIQUOR.

In England, as in other warring countries, there is a very rapidly growing sentiment against the drink traffic. Mrs. Parker, sister of Earl Kitchener, declares that between 30 and 40 per cent of the new soldiers are being rendered inefficient through drink and attendant evils, and she states that the prime minister admits the percentage to be from 10 to 15. Mrs. Parker says, "Russia has done away with intoxicants. Why not Britain?"

PANAMA CANAL DRY.

Under an order signed by the governor of the Panama Canal zone, Col. George W. Goethals, all canal transportation employees are forbidden to use liquor. This includes pilots taking ships through the canal, captains of tugboats, mates and others.

THE SAME IN EVERY CITY.

The Associated Charities of Columbus, O., says the organization gave aid to one in every forty people in the city last year. It gives fifteen causes for the necessity of such assistance and intemperance heads the list.

LIQUOR IS BARRED.

The contest board of the American Automobile association now prohibits not only the use of liquors by drivers, mechanics and officials of races but refuses to sanction any race at which liquor is sold on the grounds.

PAY TAXES WITH MONEY.

Pay your taxes with money and not with boys.

ONLY THING TO DO.

If a drunken man can't get liquor what will he get? He'll get sober.